CARIBBEAN NEWS 6d.

November-December 1955

BARBADIANS AS HOTEL WORKERS

THE Barbados Government has come to an agreement with the British Hotels and Restaurants Association for recruiting Barbadians as maids and kitchen porters in British hotels. Already several have left under this scheme.

This way out of the unemployment situation in Barbados is favoured by Mr. Grantley Adams, Premier. Some months ago it will be recalled Mr. Manley, Chief Minister of Jamaica, was reported to have suggested that Jamaican women should come to Britain to take up domestic postions.

Another line of action is family restriction, and a Family Advice Centre now operates in Barbados.

It can be seen from these efforts that the conception of Mr. Grantley Adams' Government for solving the problems of Barbados is extremely limited.

Having accepted the colonial framework on which the Barbados economy is based, how difficult it is to manoeuvre within it to provide better conditions for the people! One could go on for years, even with the best of intentions, without getting any nearer the solution. Jagan and the P.P.P. in Guiana had a good programme but because big business did not like it, the country is now ruled as an absolute dictatorship.

Return Foreign Troops from the Colonies

THE Movement for Colonial Freedom has declared by a majority for the IMMEDIATE withdrawal of all foreign troops from colonial territories.

Every coloured colonial present supported the IMMEDIATE withdrawal, including Joseph Murumbi (Kenya)—to the surprise of the platform—Roy MacFarlane (Jamaica) of the Labour League of Youth, Frank Bailey (Guiana) of the Fire Brigades Union, and Billy Strachan of the C.L.C. along with the Malayan student delegation.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Fenner Brockway, Member of Parliament, (Eton & Slough), the Movement was holding its First Annual Conference on Sunday 30th, October in London.

Born in April 1954, the organisation includes wide sections of the people that support colonial independence and self-determination. Trade unions, Constituency Labour Parties, Labour Members of Parliament, miscellaneous organisations and individuals of varying degrees of 'left' ideas, all go to make up this body.

The decision on the vote for the "immediate withdrawal of all troops", however, exposed the fact that some professed allies of colonial independence were not prepared to match action to their slogans. To the surprise of Conference, after the Resolution was successfully carried, Mr. Brockway, M.P. stated that he refused to be bound by this decision (groans). This of course is hardly honest or constitutional as long as he remains President!

Message to Trinidad

The Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) sent a message of greetings to the Second Annual Congress of the WEST INDIAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY, which was being held in Port-of-Spain. "Your party has been constantly under attack since its inception . . ." was the key sentence in the message, and clearly showed which was really the fighting party in Trinidad. The Conference took place on November 6th and 13th.

The Seasons Greetings

Chubby little Philip Murray's radiant smile brings cheery thoughts, catching the gleam of joy and goodwill at this time of year. To all our readers —Best wishes for an enjoyable Christmas.

Police Search Jamaican Woman

Kingston, Jamaica.

MRS. ROSE WILLIAMS, delegate to the International Congress of Mothers in Switzerland, after a successful tour of the German Democratic Republic, People's Poland and the Soviet Union, returned here recently

At the Airport Mrs. Williams was subjected to what observers described as the most disgraceful search by local "security" police. The security officers, apparently irate at the fact that Mrs. Williams had seen with her own eyes what the local press had been hiding, not only ransacked personal articles, but even searched her doll—a gift from the people of the Soviet Union.

In an interview Mrs. Williams old correspondents how she enjoyed her tour of the Socialist countries. She told of the important resolutions of the historic Women's Congress. Everywhere, she said, she was shown the utmost courtesy, and the reception was inspiring. Nowhere was she made to feel that as a black woman she was "unwanted" or despised. Continueing Mrs. Williams declared: "In the Polish People's Republic I have seen with my own eyes how happy the entire population is in the building of their new life, and the popularity the Government enjoys".

Friendliness

Speaking of the Soviet Union Mrs. Williams said she visited Moscow, Moldavia, Leningrad and other important cities. In these cities she said every worker was expressing the desire to live in peace with the people of the world. She was very much impressed with the friendliness of the Soviet peoples, and the abundance of consumers goods available at reasonable prices. The vast building programme taking place in the Soviet Union, she said, was evidence of the peoples hope that they will be able to continue building their country in peace.

Asked what was her impression of the Women's Congress, Mrs. Williams told her inquirers how the international gathering of Mothers had brought together for the first time the representatives of millions of Mothers throughout the world in defence of their children, their homes and the noble cause of peace.

"The conference was truly representative of all

continued on back page

Don't Pity People of St. Vincent, FIGHT FOR THEM

by Our Special Correspondent

GIVING evidence before the Commission of Enquiry, set up by the Governor, Mr. Huggins, the Commissioner for Labour, stated that a man's wages in ST. VINCENT today was 98 cents per day, and that for women 75 cents. (1 cent=½ penny); he continued, "I cannot give a correct estimate of the number of persons unemployed in he sugar and arrowroot estate areas".

These disgraceful facts, amongst others, were forced out of this Government official's mouth, as he appeared in kingstown, before the COMMISSION, instituted to enquire into the wages earnings and conditions of employment in agriculture and the processing of agricultural products. The Commission was set up through the new ADMINISTRATOR, who represents the Governor. Mr. Alexander Falcholer Giles M.B.E., has succeeded the infamous COUTTS who was more gubernatorial than any Caesar.

The Commission carefully chosen consists of:

(a) Sir Clement Malone, Kt.O.B.E.
(b) W. S. Hagley, Esq.
(c) G. S. DaBreo, Esq.

They intend to hear evidence in Kingstown, Georgeown, Mesopotamia, Barrouallie and Biabou.

Estate owners are naturally present to lie to defend themselves against exposure of the feudal system of land tenure and labour conditions that exist in ST. VINCENT.

HOW MANY BRITISH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WILL READ THIS REPORT? HOW MANY WILL RAISE QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS? This is their responsibility as long as they claim the right to rule and legislate for the colonial people.

HON. E. T. JOSHUA, M.L.C., President of the Federated Industrial and Agricultural Workers' Union put forward the clearest immediate solutions to the

continued on page 5

OIL SWINDLE

NETT PROFIT of the group for the year ended 30th June, 1955, after providing for all charges, including depreciation and taxation, was £2,312,682 as against a mere £1,851,629 a year ago. So said Mr. Simon J. Voss in his report as Chairman to TRINIDAD LEASEHOLDS LIMITED.

Yes, crude oil production has gone UP! —more PROVEN reserves have been recorded—and taxation has gone DOWN!

For how long will Trinidad oil continue to drain into the lap of the English capitalist?

★ EDITORIAL ★

Two Kinds of Disaster

THE severe hurricane that swept the West Indies at Barbados, Grenada, and British Honduras, was a natural disaster of a type occurring periodically in this part of the world.

The people who lost their lives, the destruction of houses, sugar, cocoa and banana crops,—these all bear silent testimony of a major tragedy that only those who suffered can fully appreciate.

We express our deepest sympathy to all those who suffered, though we know their pain and misery cannot be easily erased.

Aid has gone to the victims from several parts of the world, including the assistance the London Branch of the Caribbean Labour Congress was able to collect through its appeal.

The British Government granted £50,000 each to the territories, while Sir Hubert Rance, former Governor of Trinidad, has been heading an appeal for a relief fund which recently went just over the £50,000 mark.

Interviewed by a London newspaper, he complained that he was disappointed with the results, saying that had it been for some other part of the world outside the Commonwealth the British people would have forked up much more already.

In this hurricane, as in others before, the people who were hit hardest were the poorest. This was confirmed by our Barbados correspondent.

The shacks and flimsey houses are the ones that are blown down quickest. In Jamaica the people afterwards 'housed' in tents have not yet recovered from that hurricane of 1951.

And already gloomy predicions are being made by influential authorities and publications that it will be a very long time before Barbados and Grenada can "resume the march to progress" from where they left off.

This can be prevented

Although natural disasters like hurricanes cannot be prevented, the damage they cause merely aggrevate the permanent distress of the majority of people in the West Indies.

Indeed, the West Indies may be regarded as being in a state of permanent disaster.

To know that over one-third of the working population is always unemployed and many of those at work are on starvation wages, to learn of the patch-work slums, of the families who sleep on the pavements of Kingston—the effect of all this is as if a hurricane was striking every single day of the year.

The big difference is that this type of "hurricane" is not caused by nature.

IT IS MAN MADE.

It is the result of a system known as colonialism or imperialism, and which is the counterpart of capitalism.

We West Indians are the colonials and are being exploited, robbed of our wealth and heritage, and thus prevented from fully developing ourselves, for the benefit and profit of a very small number of financial sharks who control the big companies and plantations on our land, and who use the British Government and Army as their big stick to keep us where they want us.

Anyhow you look at it, that is certainly a disaster for us. But this type of "hurricane" we can deal with. We've got the remedy in our own hands.

All that's left is for us to decide to use our UNITED STRENGTH and sweep this lot of parasites and foreign imposed governments off our backs!

Third Anniversary

WITH this issue **Caribbean News** celebrates its third anniversary, and sends greetings to all its staunch supporters.

We wish to extend a special greeting and welcome to new readers and to ask for their continued support in the future.

Caribbean News is not just another newspaper. For West Indians and indeed all those interested in the West Indies, it is THE paper.

It is our policy not to be the spokesman for the bosses, but to be outspoken and unafraid in championing the right of our people, for better conditions, for full rights, for national independence.

We appeal to you to read **Caribbean News,** show it to your friends, and to join the organisation which makes its publication possible—the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch).

WORLD YOUTH SENDS AID TO BARBADOS

IN response to an urgent appeal for help for "Those poor exploited workers who now will have to build afresh" from the recent hurricane disaster of October, the WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH immediately donated the sum of Two Hundred American dollars.

The Appeal of the CARIBBEAN PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE, of BARBADOS, was also well received by British workers. The most outstanding reply was another immediate gift of £50 from the National Executive Committee of the AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION.

Substantial presents of second-hand clothing and some tinned foods were received from the Communist Party of Hampstead, London. Others arrived at the offices of the C.L.C. (London Branch) who were responsible for circulating the appeal in Britain and throughout Europe. All the packages have been shipped off to Bridgetown, Barbados, and are expected to arrive in time for Christmas.

The Telegram from World Federation of Democratic Youth stated:

PLEASE CONVEY TO PEOPLE BARBADOS OUR SYMPATHY THEIR DISTRESS RESULT HURRICANE STOP DECIDED SEND VIA YOU TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS RELIEF STOP LETTER FOLLOWS=WFDY

Premier replies

In reply to a message of sympathy sent to Barbados, the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) received the following acknowledgment:

"The Premier has asked me to acknowledge with grateful thanks the receipt of your telegram of sympathy to the people of Barbados. He regrets that, as he is ill in bed, he is unable himself to write you at this time.

(Signed) W. Harris (Mrs.)
Secretary to the Premier.

Trinidad New Party Postponed

DR. ERIC WILLIAMS passed through London last month on his way to Geneva to attend a special parley with the INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS.

He had left Trinidad, immediately after handing in a petition to the Governor demanding a revised Constitution of two Houses for Trinidad and Tobago. The proposal was, that one House, the Lower, should consist of 18 seats wholly elected; the Upper House should consist of 16 seats, with six representatives of 'special' interest, 5 of religous denominations, the 3 ex-officio officials of the British Colonial Office and 2 nominees of the Governor or dictator. Here is a clear indication of another attempt to plan collaboration with our greatest enemies, the foreign rulers. The I.C.F.T.U. seems to be behind this like all other plans it has set afoot, to mislead the real fighters.

DR. WILLIAMS first appeared as a ray of hope to Trinidad when he broke with the CARIBBEAN COMMISSION. Since then he has drifted right back into the hands of foreign rulers, who re-appear as the I.C.F.T.U.

Dr. Williams had the support of 27,811 votes, but if this is all that he promises, then he will go the way of GOMES and others.

BYRON
REMINGTON
IMPERIAL
OLIVETTI
OLYMPIA
ROYAL
SMITH-CORONA

Portables and Standards
(elite and pica type)

★ ★ ★

MODERN TYPEWRITERS LTD.
52, EARLS COURT ROAD, W.8.

Please send me, without obligation, a FREE brochure with details

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Vivacious dancing stirs them

VIVACIOUS dancing by the West Indian Cultural group enlivened the atmosphere when West Indians and English people got together at a social held by the St. Pancras Borough Council.

Intended to bring white and coloured together in friendly contact, the Council set up a Welfare sub-committee, and this social last month was the first to help bridge the gap.

Starting off slowly at first as most socials go, from the time the West Indian Dance group started entertaining with their songs and dances, everyone became electrified and joined in the calypso spirit.

The Mayor was particularly pleased with the performance, which was held at the Church Hall.

Attended by about 60 people, this social should be the beginning in something much bigger, as the Council is planning to organise a big event at the St. Pancras Town Hall.

AND HERE'S PROOF—

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SAINT PANCRAS

Town Clerk's Department,
St. Pancras Town Hall,
Euston Road, N.W.1.

Dear Mr. Strachan,

Alderman Aspa, the Chairman of the Colonial Welfare Advisory Committee, has asked me to thank you for arranging for the dancing display which was enjoyed so much by all of us at last evening's social.

The standard of the display was excellent, those concerned the sincere appreciation of the and I should be glad if you would convey to all Committee for so generously giving their time and making the evening a success.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. C. E. Austin,
Town Clerk.

Nurse Clemetson to stand trial

RETURNING TO JAMAICA

London; 22/11/55:

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court refused to direct the release of student nurse Evet Joyce Clemetson from Holloway Prison where she is awaiting her return trip to JAMAICA, to face charges of embezzlement as a Post Office clerk in the Bath district.

Mr. Justice Hallett said the sum (£6) involved was small. He viewed, however, the alleged offence with gravity, as here was a public official who bore great responsibility, especially when dealing with illiterate people. The depositor concerned in the case, is reported as being illiterate.

That court seemed to agree that even a return to Jamaica would be harsh and oppressive.

To think, that this was the same impression at the time of Captain Blood!

Privy Council rejects Madame Leon's petition

THE Chairman of the Jamaica Labour Party and former Minister of Health, Mrs. Rose Leon, was refused permission by the Judicial Committee of he PRIVY COUNCIL to appeal against her conviction for making a false statement about a candidate, during the General Election in JAMAICA last January.

The decision was made known on October 17th, in London.

Mr. Cyril Salmon, Q.C., who represented Mrs. Leon, said that she had been returned to the House of Representatives, but had been disfranchised, because of her conviction, and therefore unable to take her Seat.

Madame LEON, as she is commonly known in the island, has a sharp tongue and pulls every trick out of the bag to combat her opponents.

BLACK AND WHITE WORKERS IN WILLESDEN

MR. Ernest Eytle, a BBC official from the West Indies department, won unanimous approval from a crowd of trade unionists, when he addressed the WILLESDEN TRADES COUNCIL on October 24th.

Sharing the platform with the C.L.C. spokesman, who dealt with the political and economic factors affecting West Indians, Mr. Eytle confined his remarks to lighter social aspects, with a lot of stage effects, in true BBC fashion.

The trade unionists first gasped with disgust when Mr. Eytle, replying to questions, stated that all major authority rested in the hands of the British Colonial Office. He saw only NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE as the solution; this drew cheers of warm approval.

Tall Order

The meeting was finally closed by Brother Davies of the TRANSPORT & GENERAL WORKERS UNION, a former coal-miner, after one trade unionist had declared that he, with fellow British workers, were fighting for a real socialist Government, which would play fair, not only with British workers, but with the colonial people—a tall order!

A resolution directing the Trades Council to discuss immediately plans for setting up some friendship group or other to include both coloured and British workers, was unanimously carried. It's up to the West Indians here now, to make this a lasting success.

WHAT IS THE BABY'S NATIONALITY?

THE K.L.M. Airlines reported recently that one of their passengers gave birth to a baby over Poughkeepsie, NEW YORK.

A DUTCH aircraft, over UNITED STATES territory, with a JAMAICAN mother?

Reports say, that the mother's name is Mrs. Gloria Foster. When the airliner alighted at Montreal, CANADA en route, both mother and child were admitted to hospital. They are reported to be quite well.

for SUBSCRIBERS

ANNUALLY: 6/- per year, post free

all over the world

AIR RATES: 12/- per year, post free

Write

Circulation,
CARIBBEAN NEWS,
3 Robert Street, London, N.W.1.

The Trial of Jomo Kenyatta

by Montagu Slater, Secker & Warburg, 18/-

IT is really an understatement to describe this book as a summary of the case, for so well has the author compiled the main factors and outstanding incidents in the case, that the reader is projected, so to speak, not only into the school room of far off Kepenguria, where this gross injustice took place, but even amidst the Kikuyu, their ancient customs and superstitions so dear to them and yet so terribly misunderstood by others.

Among the prosecution's astonishing arguments against Kenyatta was that at a meeting where he denounced Mau-Mau, he in fact did not mean what he said.

Startling incidents included leading defence counsel D. N. Pritt being charged with contempt of court. (Subsequently acquitted by the Supreme Court in Nairobi), and the interpreter walking out of the court-room—never to return when confronted with inaccuracies in his interpretation.

★

"I cannot follow the African's mind", said the Magistrate during the trial. Yet he seemed to accept every ounce of evidence from the prosecution witnesses and rejected out of hand those of the defence.

Again to quote this gentleman: "Throughout the trial the allegation was that the Europeans have robbed the Kikuyu of their land. There is no proof before me that any land has been stolen from the Kikuyu". Maybe not, but how did the dominant European settlers acquire all the land they now hold—and the best at that?

In the urge to impose civilisation on these leaders of the Kenyan people the maximum sentences of seven years were imposed on all but one of the accused who was acquitted in the Court of Appeal.

Today, while these men languish in prison, atrocities continue to pile up against the African people. Can one wonder why today the so-called backward peoples are in revolt against the continuation of this subjection by men whose only motive is robbery. The score today is in the region or 12,000 killed and half as many taken prisoner, as well as some 150,000 put in concentration camps.

After reading this book no one can be in any doubt about the reason for this wholesale malicious slaughter. But then you cannot very well rob a people of their heritage. In the final analysis the people of Kenya shall be the victors.

A.B.

SHOW TALK

Josh is a MUST

APPEARING at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Friday, November 4th, was folklorist Josh White. On the same bill were the Trinidad Southern All-Stars Percussion Orchestra.

The Seven Boys from Trinidad opened the programme and played during the interval tunes ranging from Strauss to Baccanal. The numbers were specially arranged for the peculiar "strumchorded" instruments.

Encores were appreciated with more calypsos—in which the boys struck **true** form. A special treat was the Bainon "Anna," which gace them first prize in the Percussion Orchestras Competition in Trinidad last year.

'One Meat Ball'

Josh was superb as usual. From his 500-song repertoire, he sang work-songs, blues, ballads, spirituals—all with the same consummate skill, each with its message—from the people, for the people. "House of the Rising Sun"—the hotel in the red-light district which he never wants his sister to know. "One Meat Ball"—the experiences of the poor, exploited worker who only had **fifteen cents** for lunch and couldn't find a restaurant to take his humble order.

Josh—who plays around the country for the next three months—is a MUST. You can see and hear him at the Royal Albert Hall on December 14th, when he appears in a concert in aid of the WEST INDIAN HURRICANE VICTIMS. Make it a date, won't you?

from F. O'Jon

WEST INDIAN NEIGHBOUR

A HANDY little booklet has been published by the British Council of Churches, primarily to familiarise church workers and leaders in Britain with some of the elementary facts of West Indian immigration.

Entitled YOUR NEIGHBOUR FROM THE WEST INDIES, it is priced at one shilling and is obtainable at 10 Eaton Gate, S.W.1.

In a very simple and personal way it introduces the average English person to the West Indian's background, explaining some of the differences and similarities of the two peoples.

Although agreeing that there are certain differences in culture, social customs, etc., it comes down against any theory of white racial superiority.

Prepared for the needs of the conscious Christian, the booklet gives tips on the tasks of the Christain Church towards influencing West Indians.

On the question of language, the hint is given: "English is their native tongue. Do not, therefore, comment with surprise on their excellent English accent. This will betray our deplorable ignorance of our colonial history and will quite easily cause offence".

If this booklet is widely distributed it can do much good to foster better relations.

R.C.

Keep up to date with the FACTS!

Read these books:

133 DAYS TOWARDS FREEDOM IN GUIANA 1/-
by Ashton Chase, former P.P.P. Minister of Labour

SUGAR—Story of a Colony 9d.

Also

THUNDER
Organ of P.P.P. (Guiana) weekly 4d.

Order from C.L.C. (L.B.)
100, Rochester Row, S.W.1.

Caribbean News
Monthly Newspaper
obtainable from
CENTRAL BOOKS LTD.
2, Parton Street, W.C.1

Is this a WORLD COUNCIL?

MONSIEUR Nguyen Manh-Ha, former President of Catholic Action of South Viet-Nam, was by far the most outstanding amongst a motley collection of delegates that visited Margate, KENT, over the week-end, November, 5th-7th, 1955.

M. Manh-Ha spoke with intense feeling of the failure of the UNITED NATIONS to assure success to the famous Geneva agreements of 1954, which brought an end to bloodshed in war-torn INDO-CHINA.

COLONIAL LIBERATOR

Standing nearly six feet, and of a sturdy athletic build, the Mongolian featured delegate, who had formerly been a Minister in the first Ho-Chi-Minh Government, spoke with some suave and exhausting persuasion. He declared that although some people might not entirely approve of the form of Government in North VIET-NAM, he could assure us that they enjoyed the highest standards of democracy and were free to elect their own governments. What a pity no representative of theirs was present to give this inaugural conference a great lead on to colonial liberation?

The week-end conference was called by Mr. Fenner Brockway, M.P., in his several roles as leader of the Congress of People against Imperialism, the Movement for Colonial Freedom and elements of the defunct questionable Socialist international.

Delegates had been invited carefully from all points of the compass, making certain that no Communist Parties were represented, although they were known to be the main leaders of colonial liberation, especially in CYPRUS and MALAYA. Amongst those that responded, which can be considered as representing large masses, were the Convention Peoples' Party (GOLD COAST)—although no representative arrived or written message was received—and the People's Progressive Party (GUIANA), represented by Mr. Ranji Chandisingh.

CHARM & CHATTER

Other representatives came from Madagascar, Tunisia, India, Israel, and some Arab countries; most naively honest, with positive Eastern charm, was the young female representative of a self-confessedly small party from CEYLON, which she told us was characterised as Trotskyist.

FREE COLONIES

The occasion should not have been missed by any serious patriotic colonial, nor for that matter, by any English or other metropolitan socialist, who understood the importance of the liberation of the colonies to permit their real economic development. This, of course, would be of lasting benefit to the socialists and communists of the imperial countries, firstly, as to the large scale saving on war expenditure and of course the increased ability that colonials would enjoy in purchasing power.

To pick out some of the best contributions from a very poorly organised affair, one must uncompromisingly pin-point RANJI CHANDISINGH, who was the personal representative of Dr. CHEDDI JAGAN, of the People's Progressive Party (Guiana). He shone late in the early evening, with all the brilliance of a tropical sunset, to light the depleted Conference Hall with his powerful exposition. This precipitated an open invitation by a Danish socialist and broadcaster to Mr. Chandisingh to tour DENMARK, all expenses covered.

Remarkably, his closest rival for top honours, was an Indian, recently returned from participation in the struggles for the liberation of GOA, from Portuguese imperial chains. He too, roused conference with his continuous acclamation of India's peaceful Gandhi-like traditions. To be mentioned also, was Mr. A. Tuakli, of the WEST AFRICAN STUDENTS' UNION, who although he had covered his territories admirably and concisely, was followed by three young men much too full of West African charm and chatter. The ARAB/ISRAEL clash seemed somewhat stage managed, and was hardly an asset to socialist thinking.

At the final sessions, the Conference promoters, full of heady words, proclaimed the setting up of a World Council for Colonial Liberation, with an allied twin, known as the International Council for Economic and Social Co-operation.

Heedless of the restraint urged by some of the best spokesmen at the conference, who WARNED THAT INSUFFICIENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

SYDNEY KING

ADMITTED COLONIAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT were present, to take such decisions, a strange vote was taken.

WRONG TURNING

The result showed some twenty or more nominal organisations supporting the venture (Mr. Brockway voted on behalf of three, his colleague Jean Russe voted on behalf of four!), while on the other hand, two of the three MALAYAN delegations abstained from support, as did the P.P.P. (GUIANA), the W.A.S.U., the Ceylon and Jewish representatives.

A great sorrow that this first important step on the path to colonial liberation should have taken a wrong turning, so soon.

C.N. Reporter

B. H. Minister Exposes Phoney Constitutions

MR. Leigh Richardson, leader of the P.U.P. of British Honduras, and a Minister in the Government, made the following interesting observation in an editorial in the "Billboard" of 31st October :

". . . so called advanced constitutions are still colonial constitutions and that under them elected representatives of the people must work side by side with elements which comprise the former colonial régimes.

"However good and wise the social and economic progress of the elected leaders, it can only be carried out to the extent that the colonial official side is willing to co-operate.

"For instance, no laws can be passed if an Attorney-General neglects or delays on various pretexts, to draft them, and if a Financial Secretary is not sympathetic to the social and economic policy of elected members, he can make the carrying out of any such project very difficult and almost impossible.

"Colonial officials have always been prepared to give lip support to housing programmes, just labour laws, social security schemes and assistance to farmers. Getting their support in actual practice is a horse of another colour.

"Elected leaders often find their programmes of reform obstructed by some colonial official who in a few months' time would be gone, completely forgetting the people and the territory which suffer through his obstruction.

"Colonial officials consider themselves as representatives of Great Britain, and the interests of the people of the territory are secondary in importance to them.

"Also they do not hesitate, if the elected leaders become too demanding in their zeal for reform to cause constitutional crises and lead Britain to abolish the constitution."

GUIANA

People's victory in local election

(Reprint from THUNDER, Nov. 19th, 1955).

THE Buxton elections are over. They ended in a resounding victory for the people's candidates, headed by Comrade King over the candidates assisted by the Burnhamites and George Younge.

The people's bloc put up five candidates and gained 818 votes. The Burnham group put six candidates and polled 518 votes—a defeat of 308.

King, who heads the people's bloc, polled 215 votes out of 288 cast in Buxton division, 24 of which were rejected votes.

Younge, who headed the opposition group, polled only 136 votes out of 232 cast in the Friendship division, nine of which were rejected.

Following are the results in detail, the people's candidates being marked with an X :—

Friendship—Younge 136; London 114; Abrams 101; X Carter 109; X Forde 107. **Buxton**—X King 215; X Dundas 195; X Shivsankar (Sadhu) 192; Talbot 58; Anderson 58; Pollard 51.

Thus the people's candidates won four out of six elected seats. Yet this does not give them a majority on the council. The Younge group has already begun to boast of the support of three Government nominees in the forthcoming ballot among the councillors for the 1956 Chairman.

This means that these politicians confidently expect the Central Government to take their side in order to defeat the wishes of the people. A brief review of the election campaign will show how the wind blows.

Before nomination the people's candidates published a leaflet calling for support for King, Dundas, Shivsanker, Carter and Forde, with G. A. Younge (independent). However, Younge, instigated by Burnham, came out with splitting tactics.

Empty boast

He declared himself on the side of certain candidates whose mishandling of the people, etc., are known to many. The Burnhamites' press published a handbill calling on Buxtonians to "unite and clear your council and your village of Sydney King and his gang."

Mr. Burnham, in an editorial in his paper, called for a victory of the candidates opposed to Sydney King, and prophesied "an overwhelming victory" for his group. "The result is foregone" BOASTED Mr. Burnham.

Jessie Burnham, G. A. Younge, Mrs. Talbot, Anderson, Pollard, went from house to house telling the people that if they should vote for King the colony will not be given general elections again, and that should King eventually become Chairman the new Governor would immediately DISRATE the village.

The police also joined the campaign against the people's candidates. They refused King permission to hold one meeting on the excuse that the matter was under consideration by Government. However, the Burnhamites were given permission for at least two meetings.

At the Burnhamite meeting on Saturday night 10th, the people refused to listen to Jessie Burnham and Fingall. Mrs. Talbot was shouted down when she attacked King as a Communist.

The people voted as shown above. They voted not for Communism, but for clear village administration, against rackets and curry favouring and oppressive measures against the people.

JOIN THE C.L.C. NOW AND STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT

Post to the Secretary, Caribbean Labour Congress (L.B.), 100 Rochester Row, S.W.1

I wish to become a member and enclose subscription of .....s. .....d. (5/- per year payable either in full or two sums of 2/6.)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

WHO SUPPORTS CYPRUS?

ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, in the best biblical tradition, has come away unscathed from every enticement at the hands of the imperial serpent. Talks with the newly appointed British Governor have left the Archbishop more firmly pledged to the principle of self-determination. What a magnificent lesson for the West Indian Bishopry. Every expression of solidarity NOW, with Cyprus, will bring one day nearer, the liberation of all British colonials.

Since 1878, CYPRUS has been under British occupation. The people, racially and culturally, are a part of Greece, and started fighting for SELF-DETERMINATION at the end of the eighteenth century, when the Turkish Empire was supreme across the under belly of Europe. It has been a long and bitter struggle up to 1927, when some concessions were made in the Constitution. It altered as Jamaica's did, or Dominica or Trinidad or Guiana. Effective control still remained with the British Governor.

So it was in Guiana in 1953, so it was in Nicosia 1931, when around the protest on a Taxation Bill, feeling ran so high, the Colonial Office in London swept away the old façade, and the Governor ruled openly as a Dictator!

by Billy Strachan

The end of World War II saw a new era, that we too experienced in the Caribbean. As our own Labour Movement stirred restlessly, we were accorded the rubber glove treatment, but in Cyprus, the mailed fist crashed down on the heads of the whole trade union movement, jailing the lot for propagating—ENOSIS, union with Greece.

Still the working peoples' Party kept growing. It is known as A.K.E.L. Four out of the six mayors of the larger towns proudly adhere to A.K.E.L. One, the Mayor of Limassel, with his council, was sentenced in 1948, for renaming a street! Like our story, too, the foreign governors panicked at every token gesture (remember Burnham's textbooks scare?) of national self-assertion. How empty now the British Government's promises sound, of progress on towards self-government?

And then came Egypt. Forced from the canal zone by sheer mass pressure, the Mediterranean interlopers from Britain had to make one last stand. To add confidence, when the British Parliament in London decreed that Cyprus would be Britain's main military satelite in the Middle East, they announced simultaneously, that self-government promises for colonials, did NOT apply to Cyprus. Not a word from Manley Q.C., etc., not a howl from Gomes, not a squeak from Adams, C.M.G., etc. . . .

Perhaps the embarrassment of what half-a-million fighting Cypriots can do, put them to shame. How it exposes their nonsense of our 3½ million being too insignificant to stand on our own legs?

First, Britain tried the B.G. stunt of "development" to provide work for the unemployed. There are masses of unemployed in Nicosia, Kyrenia, Famagusta and Limassel. Army barracks were to go up, arterial roads were to be built, aerodromes sited. Yet the people rebelled. Too well they understood that these things were not in the interests of Cypriots. The Cypriots want, above all, the most honourable right, SELF-DETERMINATION. They want too, the material goods, their salt mines, their iron and copper deposits, these prizes that await freemen.

No better lesson

Be not misled by any propaganda of the fears of the Greek monarcho-fascist régime. Who could suppress these brave people, who are winning their freedom from British imperialism? They, with the Greek people, who too love liberty, will make governments answer to their demands. Look already at Papagos' decisions on the N.A.T.O. exercises, directed at intimidating the Middle East.

If ever we, or any other people wanted a lesson in the fight for national liberation, we could not do better than look to Cyprus. Archbishop Makarios, his clergy and his flock, all cry with A.K.E.L.—ENOSIS! 96% of all the population voted in 1950 in support at a plebiscite under the auspices of Ethnarchy. It is A.K.E.L. who preach this policy far and wide. It is A.K.E.L. who expose the brutality and trickery of British imperialism in partnership with their Yankee overlords, who own so many mines in Cyprus. It is A.K.E.L. who preach love and admiration for the Soviet Union—it is A.K.E.L. who preach Peace. **Peace,** so that colonials can be free and not harnessed by a military junta for intense exploitation. World Peace means the ending of all wars, colonial wars; world peace means the withdrawal of foreign troops from other peoples' territories; world peace means an opportunity for all of us to develop culturally and financially without waste and destruction.

Foreign terror

But as we cry Peace, and demand the right to live as man, ten thousand men come marching into Cyprus, led by Field Marshal Sir John Harding. 1,200 Royal Marine Commandos patrol Nicosia; a regiment of Gordon Highlanders fly out from Edinburgh; the 1st Battalion of Royal Norfolk Regiment also enplane from Lyneham, England, to meet colleagues of the 1st Battalion Royal Leicestershire on their way from the Sudan.

Any wonder when correspondents questioned the proud Archbishop Makarios as to whether he supported violence, his stinging reply cowed them to silence. We are a peaceful people, he explained, it is the foreigners who bring weapons of death and terrorism to our land.

But the imperialists will try every technique. In the one hand the bayonet, the other pumping tear-gas callously against a stone-throwing victorious crowd of patriots, while from the radio the voice of Harding, bringing gifts to Caesar, promising economic development, SOON! In the chaos, he contradicts his boss in London, he states :

> "The proposals also look forward to a time when self-government having been efficiently established . . . ".

How easy the words flow, when this frantic throw of the dice will decide, either a sticky end for imperialism in Cyprus, or yet another breather before the final victory for the people.

To sum up the struggle in Cyprus I will tell the story of my own barber—a cypriot.

Two years ago, as we chatted, with me sitting garbed in white bib, I expressed admiration for the Cypriots and sympathy with them over the common burden of occupying British troops. He rejected the sympathy; the army brings money, they need haircuts, they drink, they ride by bus, and we cypriots will flourish. I was squashed.

He cuts my hair satisfactorily—a worthy asset for coloured men in England—so, I was back again in the "chair" about a week ago as usual. He started the conversation, what do you think of what the British do in my country? I was non-committal. He continued, "it is difficult for me to control myself here, razor in hand, when my brothers at home, unarmed, unemployed and hungry have to face the b——— limeys."

This Cypriot girl in paper chains symbolises the struggle of her people to break the bonds of British Imperialism.

Blues singer barred

"Big Bill Broonzy"—American blues singer—was barred from a Nottingham hotel on Friday, November 4th, **because of his colour.**

Although the booking was made beforehand and he had stayed at the same hotel previously—there is no doubt of this **colour bar.**

On entering the hotel, a hall porter quite abruptly stated "No coloured people are allowed." So being upset, naturally, Bill walked out and though verbally appeased, preferred to stay elsewhere.

Dr. JAMES AND THE ARCHBISHOP

FOLLOWING Dr. Marcus James' concellation as Chaplain to a Birmingham diocese, by the Bishop, Dr. J. L. WILSON, the young Jamaican parson has had an interview with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Fisher.

Dr. JAMES issued a statement in London on November 7th, in which, amongst other comments, he stated, "His Grace was very cordial."

What barbs those velvet words cover, well you can have your guess?

St. VINCENT

from page 1

many evils that man has set to St. Vincent.

Joshua's demands can be summarised:

1. a Central Sugar Factory in order to compete with the MOUNT BENTNICK Tory owned monopoly,

2. the abolition of "task work" and the introduction of "day work" (a big advance on British Trade Union thinking).

3. increased prices to be paid by Starch manufacturers for ARROWROOT (he fully exposed the fact that small traders of the peasant community bought at 36 cents. per basket and made a living reselling it, whereas the big manufacturers paid only 24 cents. per basket).

Dirty tricks

4. Formation of a CANE FARMERS' ASSOCIATION for the protection of small peasant growers, against the factory owners who used every dirty trick and economic pressure to drive their selling prices down.

5. introduction of "time rates" also for coconut picking in place of the inequitable wage of 8 cents. per hundred.

6. demanded the protection by customs duties, for the declining SEA ISLAND COTTON industry which was being ruined by the introduction of Japanese products (another victim of Britain's recent submission to Yankee pressure to admit Japan to the **General Agreements on Trade and Tariffs).**

Here was a programme for many other West Indian islands to follow. The Hon. Joshua, M.L.C., in a full statement laid bare the government sponsored fight against all trade unionism; especially in the SUGAR INDUSTRY, namely at the Mt. Bentinck Sugar Estates where the management would not even bargain collectively with the only existing trade union.

Need British support

Consumer prices in St. Vincent are the same as anywhere else in The Caribbean, that is, twice as high as in Britain.

Much that has come to light is so shocking, that this report will probably be relegated to the archives of the government's vaults, to rot and decay.

To see any success for the demands of St. Vincent, it will mean a solid fight all the way for St. Vincentian workers, supported by all the West Indies. British trade unionists too, carry a large measure of responsibility for it is they who elect the governments that perpetrate this moral crime of COLONIALISM.

Free This Negro Mother and Her Two Sons

THE. Women's International Democratic Federation has for the past seven years given full support to all action aiming at the liberation of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, Negro mother of the United States, and her two sons.

All three have been sentenced to life imprisonment for having defended themselves against the attacks of a white farmer in the southern state of Georgia.

The W.I.D.F. has just received, from the Provisional Committee to Free the Ingrams (the chairman of which is Mrs. Amy Hunt, the mother of Mrs. Ingram), the following appeal, asking support for the new campaign to return this mother to her twelve children.

Here is an extract of this appeal:

"The freedom of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her sons is of grave and immediate concern to people of goodwill here and abroad. Inhumanities like the imprisonment of the Ingrams, the brutal lynching of the fourteen years old Emmet Louis Till in Mississippi, and the lynching of the Rev. Lee and Mr. Lamar Smith in the same state, for exercising the right to vote, are practices that must be uprooted in our country.

"Only a vigorous campaign of concerted effort, extending around the world, will stop these atrocities against the Negro people."

The Committee asks that on the occasion of Human Rights Day, December 10h, 1955, all people of good will who want to see justice done in the case of this innocent mother and her two sons, should send telegrams to President Eisenhower asking him to intercede to set them free.

★

Tory demands 'Ban all immigrants'

MR. C. OSBOURNE, the Conservative Member of Parliament for Louth, asked the Prime Minister, on Thursday, 10th November to take immediate steps to control all immigration into the United Kingdom. MR. C. OSBOURNE, the Conservative Member of Parliament for Louth, asked the Prime Minister, on Thursday, 10th November to take immediate steps to control all immigration into he United Kingdom.

Naturally, the Prime Minister, the cynical SIR ANTHONY EDEN, himself a Conservative, replied that migration of aliens had long been controlled, adding:

"at the same time the House will bear in mind the traditions we have hitherto been careful to observe about the rights of British subjects." (LAUGHTER).

★ ★ ★

New money for Caribbean

All British occupied Caribbean territories, excepting JAMAICA, introduced a unified system of currency on November 15th.

The decimal currency is based on the local dollar, with the cent as one-hundreth part. The coins were struck by the British Royal Mint, and will bear on one side, the crowned effigy of the British Queen, as it appears on the coins of other British controlled territories.

Deportation

CLAUDIA JONES, great fighter for Negro rights in the United States, is to be deported to Britain on December 9th.

Born in Trinidad, she left for America when just eight years of age.

Though ill for several months, Claudia Jones was imprisoned and persecuted by the American Justice Department because of her progressive ideas.

THE CONTACT LENS CENTRES
MAX HILLEL F.S.M.C. D.OPT. F.A.C.L.P.
OPTHALMIC AND DISPENSING OPTICIAN
119 Woodgrange Road, Forest Gate, E.7
Tel. MARyland 5170
4 Ferntower Road, Newington Green, N.5
Tel. CANonbury 6837

THIS TREE BEARS STRANGE FRUIT

Victims of American Lynch Justice

CHINESE PAPER-CUTS AND GREETINGS CARDS

FREE!

MAGNIFICENT DOUBLE GIFT OFFER

To present readers of— and new subscribers to

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

The popular illustrated magazine

Every new subscription or renewal to CHINA RECONSTRUCTS made in December or January, carries with it a gift packet of six Greetings Cards reproducing in colour the works of famous Chinese artists.

A set of beautiful Chinese Paper-Cuts will also be given FREE as a supplement in the December issue of CHINA RECONSTRUCTS.

Take out a subscription NOW!

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS—the monthly magazine that brings to your home a vivid description of 600 million people building a new life. Glorious photos, short stories, articles by leading Chinese personalities. Annual subscription 6s. 6d., post free.

cut along here

TO CENTRAL BOOKS, LTD., 2, Parton St., Red Lion Sq., W.C.1

I enclose 6s. 6d. for one years subscription to CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....(C.N)

Jamaican Woman

from page 1

Mothers regardless of political or religious beliefs. Conservatives, Catholics, Socialists, Communists, and women of every conceivable political and religious viewpoint, all sat together for four days discussing their common problems and endeavoring to forge unity for the solutions of these problems".

Mrs. Williams said the Fifth World Festival of Youth was the most impressive demonstration she witnessed during the tour. She declared Warsaw was the Capital of the world Youth, and to see and hear these hundreds of thousands of young people from every country of the world chatting, singing, dancing and generally making friends was truly encouraging. Mrs. Williams also spoke of the work of the Polish Youth in preparing their capital city to receive foreign guests. She said this magnificant achievement by the Polish Youth supported by the Government, was a warmhearted demonstration of international friendship.

Many thanks

Closing Mrs. Williams returned thanks to the Women's International Democratic Federation, the Peoples of Poland, Germany and the Soviet Union, and to the British National Assembly of Women, whose guest she was after her return from the continent, for the warm and kind-hearted reception she received during her visit abroad. "To the many friends I have made in the countries I have visited many, many thanks, and one day I hope to welcome you to Jamaica".

ADVERTISEMENT RATES
7/6 per column-inch
15% discount for 6 consecutive ads.
Send to Advertisement Dept.
100, Rochester Row, S.W.1

Published by Trevor Carter, 146 Colin Crescent, N.W.9
X-Press Print, 1 Felixstowe Road, N.W.10.